

the original infrastructure and a major user, the Federal Government has an important responsibility to help stem the flow of this pollution and comply with the Clean Water Act. The remaining funds will allow the Administrator of EPA, working together with an "Anacostia Watershed Council" of State and local officials, to develop a comprehensive environmental protection and resource management plan for the watershed, for several Federal agencies to join in the implementation of the plan.

The Anacostia River suffers from centuries of impacts and changes. Once a healthy, thriving river, it is today severely degraded. This legislation is urgently needed if we are to achieve the goal of making the Anacostia and its tributaries swimmable and fishable again. It is my hope that provisions of this measure will be included in the reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1473. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a business credit against income for the purchase of fishing safety equipment; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce The Commercial Fishermen Safety Act of 2005, a bill to help fishermen purchase the life-saving safety equipment they need to survive when disaster strikes. I am pleased to be joined by my good friend from Massachusetts, Senator KENNEDY, in introducing this legislation. Senator KENNEDY has been a leader in the effort to sustain our fisheries and to maintain the proud fishing tradition that exists in his State and mine.

Recent portrayals of the commercial fishing industry in film and in literature have provided the American public with glimpses of the challenges and dangers associated with earning a living from the sea. These stories and movies merely scratch the surface of what it is like to be a modern-day fisherman. Everyday, members of our fishing communities struggle to cope with the pressures of running a small business, complying with burdensome regulations, and maintaining their vessels and equipment. Added to these challenges are the dangers associated with fishing, where disaster can strike, often without notice.

Year-in and year-out, commercial fishing ranks among the Nation's most dangerous occupations, often as the most dangerous occupation. Between the years of 1992, when the Bureau of Labor Statistics began compiling occupational safety statistics, and 2003, 756 commercial fishing-related fatalities have been documented. This profession is roughly 30 times more dangerous than the average occupation.

Too often, commercial fishing has proved tragic throughout our coastal

waters including the north Pacific, the Gulf of Mexico, and the north Atlantic. The New England fishing community is no stranger to heartbreak. The 2004-2005 winter proved no exception, with the December 20, 2004 sinking of the *Northern Edge*. Five fishermen were lost during this incident, which was the worst loss of life in the New England fishing community since 1991. One fisherman, Pedro Furtado, was saved when the *Northern Edge* went down. Pedro was able to locate a life raft, to which he clung for half an hour in high winds and freezing temperatures before being rescued by the crew of a nearby scallop boat. This incident could have been even more tragic, if vital lifesaving safety equipment were not at hand.

Not all disasters at sea end with a loss of life. Fishermen also tell stories of dramatic rescues, stories that all have something in common: safety equipment. On February 9, 2005, a 38-foot gillnet vessel, *Hollywood*, sank 45 miles off of Cape Ann, Massachusetts. Aboard this boat were three fishermen, all of who survived. These men survived despite 40 degree water temperatures. Two of the three crew members were wearing survival suits, and they all were able to get into a life raft before the boat sank.

Tragedy has again visited the New England fishing community. This month alone, two New England vessels have sunk, during a time of year that is generally not as hazardous for the industry. On the evening of July 13, the *Sirius* sank 25 miles south of Matinicus Island, Maine. Sadly, the captain of the *Sirius* was lost. Fortunately, the two remaining crew members were rescued by fellow fishermen. Just four, short days later, another fishing vessel, *Princess*, sank off of Chatham, Massachusetts. Fortunately, the entire crew of this vessel was rescued, due in no small part to their safety equipment.

Coast Guard regulations require all fishing vessels to carry safety equipment. The requirements vary depending on factors such as the size of the vessel, the temperature of the water, and the distance the vessel travels from shore to fish.

Required equipment can include a life raft that automatically inflates and floats free, should the vessel sink; personal flotation devices or immersion suits which help protect fishermen from exposure and increase buoyancy; EPIRBs, which relay a downed vessel's position to Coast Guard Search and Rescue Personnel; visual distress signals; and fire extinguishers.

When an emergency arises, safety equipment is priceless. At all other times, the cost of purchasing or maintaining this equipment must compete with other expenses such as loan payments, fuel, wages, maintenance, and insurance. Meeting all of these obligations is made more difficult by a regulatory framework that uses measures such as trip limits, days at sea, and gear alterations to manage our marine resources.

The Commercial Fishermen Safety Act of 2005 lends a hand to fishermen attempting to prepare in case disaster strikes. My bill provides a tax credit equal to 75 percent of the amount paid by fishermen to purchase or maintain required safety equipment. The tax credit is capped at \$1500. Items such as EPIRBs and immersion suits cost hundreds of dollars, while life rafts can reach into the thousands. The tax credit will make life-saving equipment more affordable for more fishermen, who currently face limited options under the federal tax code.

Safety equipment saves lives in an occupation that has suffered far too many tragedies. By extending a tax credit for the purchase of federally required safety equipment, Congress can help ensure that fishermen have a better chance of returning home each and every time they head out to sea.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 205—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CONSTANTINO BRUMIDI AND RECOGNIZING HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED STATES ON THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. FRIST, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 205

Whereas Constantino Brumidi was born in Rome, Italy, on July 26, 1805, to an Italian mother and a Greek father who inspired his lifelong love of liberty and freedom of expression;

Whereas Constantino Brumidi emigrated to the United States from Rome in 1852 and became a naturalized citizen in 1857;

Whereas Constantino Brumidi established a reputation for excellence in his craft that led to him being known as the "Michelangelo of the Capitol";

Whereas Constantino Brumidi represents the many immigrant artists and craftsmen who have contributed over the years to the design and decoration of the United States Capitol;

Whereas Constantino Brumidi painted murals and other outstanding artworks in the United States Capitol over the last third of his life, between 1855 and 1880, including the first fresco painted in the United States, in what is today the House Appropriations Committee Room, the famous "Brumidi Corridor" on the Senate side of the Capitol, and the paintings in the President's Room (S-216);

Whereas Constantino Brumidi painted "The Apotheosis of George Washington" and began the frieze of American history on the interior of the dome above the Rotunda at the center of the United States Capitol, but died while working on sketches for the frieze;

Whereas Constantino Brumidi succeeded in his effort to encourage the use of the Capitol as a living testament to the past, present, and glorious future of the United States of America with his artwork, especially with his murals; and

Whereas Constantino Brumidi's celebration of the liberty he found in America can be seen in his signature on his painting that he was an Artist Citizen of the United States and in his statement on being hired for his first Capitol commission that, "I no longer have any desire for fame or fortune. My one ambition and my daily prayer is that I may live long enough to make beautiful the Capitol of the one country on earth in which there is liberty." Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate, on behalf of the American people, honors the life and legacy of Constantino Brumidi, artist and patriot, and recognizes his many contributions to the world of art as well as the legacy of the United States as reflected in the building that houses Congress, the United States Capitol Building.

SENATE RESOLUTION 206—DESIGNATING AUGUST 2005 AS "PSORIASIS AWARENESS MONTH"

Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 206

Whereas psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis are chronic, immune-mediated diseases for which there is no cure;

Whereas more than 5,000,000 men, women, and children in the United States have been diagnosed with either psoriasis or psoriatic arthritis;

Whereas psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis are painful and disabling diseases that have a significant and adverse impact on the quality of life of an individual diagnosed with either of these diseases;

Whereas the National Institute of Mental Health funded a study that found that psoriasis may cause as much physical and mental disability as other major diseases, including cancer, arthritis, hypertension, heart disease, diabetes, and depression;

Whereas psoriasis is associated with elevated rates of depression and suicidal ideation;

Whereas each year the people of the United States spend more than \$4,000,000,000 to treat psoriasis;

Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of psoriatic arthritis may help prevent irreversible joint damage; and

Whereas treating psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis presents a challenge for patients and physicians because no 1 treatment works for everyone, some treatments lose effectiveness over time, many treatments are used in combination with other treatments, and all treatments may cause a unique set of side effects: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates August 2005 as "Psoriasis Awareness Month".

Mr. President, I am pleased to join the junior Senator from Oregon in submitting a resolution designating August 2005 as Psoriasis Awareness Month. This awareness month will increase public knowledge about psoriasis and aid in efforts in the medical community to diagnose, treat, and eventually cure the disease.

Psoriasis is a non-contagious, immune-mediated, lifelong skin disorder. The source of psoriasis is believed to have a genetic component which triggers a faster growth cycle of skin cells that results in buildup; however, the exact cause is unknown. The severity of psoriasis can vary from person to person. For most people, the disease

appears as raised, red patches or lesions covered with a silvery white buildup of dead skin cells, called scale.

Psoriatic arthritis is a condition associated with psoriasis. This disease is a chronic inflammatory disease of the joints and connective tissue, which causes stiffness, pain, swelling and tenderness of the joints and the tissue around them. Without treatment, psoriatic arthritis can be potentially disabling and crippling. Approximately 10 to 30 percent of people with psoriasis develop psoriatic arthritis.

Psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis have been diagnosed in more than 5 million men, women and children in the United States. Each year, the United States spends \$4 billion dollars to treat this lifelong disease. Furthermore, about 56 million hours of work are lost each year by people who suffer from psoriasis, and the National Institute of Mental Health has found that psoriasis can cause as much physical and mental disability as other major diseases.

Researchers are still searching for a cure for psoriasis. In the meantime, we must continue to support such efforts and raise public awareness of the symptoms and available treatments for psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. I hope that my colleagues will join me in this effort.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 45—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE AWARENESS MONTH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 45

Whereas life insurance is an essential part of a sound financial plan;

Whereas life insurance provides financial security for families in the event of a premature death by helping surviving family members to meet immediate and longer-term financial obligations and objectives;

Whereas nearly 50,000,000 Americans say they lack the life insurance coverage needed to ensure a secure financial future for their loved ones;

Whereas recent studies have found that when a premature death occurs, insufficient life insurance coverage on the part of the insured results in three-fourths of surviving family members having to take measures such as working additional jobs or longer hours, borrowing money, withdrawing money from savings and investment accounts, and, in too many cases, moving to smaller, less expensive housing;

Whereas individuals, families, and businesses can benefit greatly from professional insurance and financial planning advice, including the assessment of their life insurance needs; and

Whereas the Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education (LIFE), the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA), and a coalition representing hundreds of leading life insurance

companies and organizations have designated September 2005 as "Life Insurance Awareness Month", the goal of which is to make consumers more aware of their life insurance needs, seek professional advice, and take the actions necessary to achieve the financial security of their loved ones: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Life Insurance Awareness Month; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 46—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION SHOULD FULLY PROTECT THE FREEDOMS OF ALL RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES WITHOUT DISTINCTION, WHETHER REGISTERED AND UNREGISTERED, AS STIPULATED BY THE RUSSIAN CONSTITUTION AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. SMITH) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 46

Whereas the Russian Federation is a participating State of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and has freely committed to fully respect the rights of individuals, whether alone or in community with others, to profess and practice religion or belief;

Whereas the Russian Federation specifically committed in the 1989 Vienna Concluding Document to "take effective measures to prevent and eliminate discrimination against individuals or communities on the grounds of religion or belief" and to "grant upon their request to communities of believers, practicing or prepared to practice their faith within the constitutional framework of their States, recognition of the status provided for them in the respective countries";

Whereas Article 28 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation declares that "every one shall be guaranteed the right to freedom of conscience, to freedom of religious worship, including the right to profess, individually or jointly with others, any religion" and Article 8 of the 1997 Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Associations provides for registration for religious communities as "religious organizations," if they have at least 10 members and have operated within the Russian Federation with legal status for at least 15 years;

Whereas registration is critical for religious groups to fully enjoy their religious freedoms, as many rights and privileges afforded to religious communities in the Russian Federation are contingent on obtaining registration;

Whereas many religious groups refuse to seek registration on theological or other grounds, while other communities have been unjustly denied registration or had their registration improperly terminated by local authorities;

Whereas many of the unregistered communities in the Russian Federation today were never registered under the Soviet system because they refused to collaborate with that